

and F. Albert, consulting forester to the Chilean Government, has sent in three of these species, the coigue (*N. dombeyi*, No. 52592), the roble (*N. obliqua*, No. 52593), and the rauli (*N. procera*, No. 52594), as well as a number of other Chilean trees and shrubs, including the tique (*Aextoxicon punctatum*, No. 52556), the beautiful tara (*Caesalpinia pectinata*, No. 52587), and an attractive liliaceous shrub (*Philesia magellanica*, No. 52596), remarkable in its ability to withstand the fumes from copper-smelting furnaces.

The growing interest in hybrid trees for forestry work as well as for street tree planting will make the hybrid poplar (*Populus rasumowskiana*, No. 52705), a cross between *P. nigra* and *P. suaveolens*, and the hybrid walnut (*Juglans intermedia vilmoreana*, No. 52681), sent in by Vilmorin-Andrieux & Co., of value to parks and forests.

J. F. Rock, our agricultural explorer, secured in Bangkok, Siam, seeds of the giant forest tree *Castanea diversifolia* (No. 52387), which bears quantities of edible chestnutlike nuts; and from the same region he obtained *Quercus junghuhnii* and other species of oaks (Nos. 52440 to 52448), bearing sweet edible acorns in great clusters, which might take the place of the scrub oaks of the pinelands of Florida.

We are so accustomed to think of the forests of Africa as trackless and inexhaustible that to learn of the threatened extinction in Rhodesia of the magnificent Milanji cypress (*Callitris whytei*, No. 52807), which grows to 140 feet in height at altitudes of 10,000 feet, comes as a distinct shock. It should make us realize, perhaps, that the virgin forests of the whole world are threatened by fire and the strangling grasses which man is taking into them. At least an effort can be made to save this cypress from extinction.

*Grains.*—The rise of plant-breeding institutions is a thing of recent times, and it is encouraging to note that already a free exchange has begun of the seeds and plants which are being produced by them in various countries. From the two foremost institutions in the Netherlands, those at Groningen and Bussum, have been received valuable collections (Nos. 52818 to 52840, 52842 to 52844) of their best selected strains of wheat, oats, barley, and flax, which can scarcely fail to be valuable in some of the cooler summer regions of America; whereas from the famous Australian plant breeder Pridham have come nine pure-line selections of the Hard Federation wheat (*Triticum aestivum*, Nos. 52557 to 52565) which has proved to be an improvement over the old Federation and which has been grown commercially in Australia since 1914 because of its equal yields and the better milling quality of the grain. Professor Ducellier, of the School of Agriculture of Maison Carree, Algiers, has presented a collection of 11 varieties of Saharan wheats (*Triticum* spp., Nos. 52546 to 52556)